

My name is Reese Jones, I am a Radio Officer in the United States Merchant Marine, and I support this petition to maintain the suggested Morse Code requirements for General and Extra Class licenses.

Morse Code is a vital back-up to the satellite communication systems common today. If the satellites fail due to natural or man made causes i.e. sunspots or electromagnetic pulse, morse code communications on the high frequency bands will be our only resource. Radio amateurs are the shoreside element of this resource and we must maintain the requirement for morse proficiency in the amateur licensing scheme.